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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re F	Patent Application of)
Hiroak	i Sano et al.) Group Art Unit:
Applic	ation No.: Unassigned) Examiner:
Filed:	February 28, 2005) Confirmation No.:
For:	TUBE CONNECTING APPARATUS AND TUBE CONNECTING METHOD))

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date February 28, 2005

y axixi law

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FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete Known					
Application Number	10.525070				
Filing Date	February 28, 2005 5 9 7 9				
First Named Inventor	Hiroaki Sano et al.				
Examiner Name					
Attorney Docket Number	012774-003				

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Dat (MM-DD-YYYY)		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
				STATUS							
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	Partial Translation	Eng. Lang. Summary	Search Report	IPER	Abstract	Cited in Spec
	*61-30582	-	Japan	07-14-1986						*	
	*6-91010		Japan	04-05-1994				*		*	
	*4-308731		Japan	10-30-1992			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			*	
	*9-154920		Japan	06-17-1997						*	
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	*0 044 204		Europe	01-20-1982				*			
	*0 515 811		Europe	12-02-1992				*			

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazi serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where publisher.						
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.